

Understanding LGBTQIA+ Reproductive Health



Who is included in the LGBTQIA+ community?

The acronym LGBTQIA+ stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual. The plus sign at the end encompasses other individuals who identify with a sexual or gender identity not represented by this acronym. It may be harder for people who identify as part of this community to obtain contraception due to their sexual or gender identity.

What is the difference between sex and gender?

Sex refers to how a person is classified at birth based on their reproductive organs. People are classified as intersex, female, or male. Gender refers to how a person internally identifies themselves. Gender may be impacted by social or cultural influences, and people can identify as many different genders, not just male or female. You may hear the term "cisgender" which means that a person's gender identity matches their sex assigned at birth.



What kind of contraceptives do members of the LGBTQIA+ community need?

There are many sexual and gender identities. It's important that all people, regardless of their sexual or gender identity have contraceptives that fit their needs. A transgender woman who produces sperm would need a contraceptive that targets sperm, while a non-binary person could need contraception that targets sperm or eggs. Both deserve the same access as a cisgender woman's access to contraception.

Why is it important that we focus on LGBTQIA+ reproductive healthcare?

MCI's vision of Reproductive Autonomy extends to all people. We believe that contraceptives should exist to fit the needs all individuals, regardless of their sexual or gender identity. MCI is devoted to ensuring all can obtain a contraceptive that fits their needs through research and development happening now!

Learn more about current projects at malecontraceptive.org.

